Differences on the Assessment of People Living Below Poverty Line

3644. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the differences prevail amongst the Research organizations about the percentage of persons living below the poverty line in India;

(b) what is the latest percentage as per Government data based on the living conditions; and

(c) whether it is a fact that NCAER and Lakdawala Committee figures on people living below the Poverty Line differs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the latest available estimate, 35.97% of people live below the poverty line in the country in 1993-94. This is estimated from the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of 50th Round (July, 1993 to June, 1994).

(c) Yes, Sir.

Fund Released for the Settlement of Jhumia Tribals

3645. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2440 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd December, 1999 and state:

(a) what fund sought to be released by Government per annum; and

(b) the fund released so far, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE